



Australian Government

Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs  
Annual Report 2005–06





Amunda Gorey  
"Alangkwe"  
2005 Acrylic on canvas  
30 x 74cm  
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Produced by the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Enquiries should be directed to:

Director

Research and Evaluation Section

Performance and Information Planning Branch

Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination

PO Box 17

Woden ACT 2606

Some names may be mentioned, or images portrayed, of people who have died since the events recorded occurred. The Secretaries' Group apologises for any unintentional hurt caused.

The report is available online at <http://www.facsia.gov.au>



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## Foreword

In early 2004, the Australian Government introduced innovative new arrangements that changed the face of Indigenous affairs. They were not intended to be a 'quick fix' solution to the problems faced by many Indigenous communities. There can be no such thing. Rather, the arrangements were introduced to provide a framework within which governments can work in partnership with each other and with Indigenous Australians, in which responsibilities can be shared and through which sustainable long-term improvements can be made.

Two years later, these new arrangements are not so 'new' and the foundations are now in place. The hard slog has begun. The Australian Public Service (APS) has been learning new skills and ways of working in order to operate effectively. Relationships are being built, both across governments and with Indigenous people. New processes have been put in place to tailor local responses to local priorities.

In tackling these challenges, the APS is continuing to develop a culture that aspires to whole-of-government rather than departmental solutions. It seeks to break down agency demarcations and jurisdictional barriers. All public servants need to understand that the disadvantage faced by Indigenous Australians is based on complex interrelating factors, and solutions will only be possible when government programmes, both mainstream and Indigenous-specific, complement each other.

At the local level, Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs) are increasingly being developed between Indigenous people and governments. These agreements are tackling local needs, and contain clear obligations for both government and community partners. Slowly both sides are learning to negotiate and to have in place the governance arrangements necessary to ensure compliance. The SRAs are becoming more ambitious although too few yet include state or territory governments or the private sector as signatories.

At the national level, the Australian Government has entered into bilateral agreements with state and territory governments. These agreements provide a valuable opportunity to target priority areas for joint action based upon the distinctive challenges confronting each state or region. We are keen to capitalise on these opportunities for collaboration but realistic about the scale of the challenges that will be faced.

Too much is at stake to allow room for complacency. We must learn from our failures as well as our successes—indeed that is the purpose of trialling new approaches. We still have a long way to go in streamlining administrative processes. Risks need to be managed prudently without tying new approaches in bureaucratic red tape. Indigenous organisations need to be given contracts and reporting requirements that are appropriate to the level of risk involved. They need assistance to better govern community assets.

We have also learnt the importance of careful planning in the implementation of whole-of-government initiatives. The difficulty is to improve coordination without creating yet another layer of administrative burden. We now recognise more clearly that solutions lie in greater delegation to the local or regional level coupled with more cross-agency collegiality at all levels.



On behalf of the Secretaries' Group I want to thank the National Indigenous Council for their keen interest, questioning and support throughout the year. Similarly I wish to express our appreciation of the engagement and commitment of those who serve on the Ministerial Task Force on Indigenous Affairs.

At times it is easy to be daunted by the challenging task ahead. We must not let that natural inclination weaken resolve. Better public administration can play a significant role in improving the articulation, design and delivery of government programmes and services. The APS—in part through the leadership of the Secretaries' Group—will retain its focus on the long-term goal of ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are able to enjoy the same opportunities as other Australians.

Dr Peter Shergold  
Chair  
Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs

# Membership of the Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs

**Dr Peter Shergold AM (Chair)**

*Secretary, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet*

**Mr David Borthwick**

*Secretary, Department of Environment and Heritage*

**Dr Peter Boxall**

*Secretary, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations*

**Ms Lynelle Briggs**

*Public Service Commissioner, Australian Public Service Commission*

**Mr Robert Cornall AO**

*Secretary, Attorney-General's Department*

**Mr Wayne Gibbons PSM**

*Associate Secretary, Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs*

**Ms Jane Halton PSM**

*Secretary, Department of Health and Ageing*

**Dr Jeff Harmer**

*Secretary, Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs*

**Ms Lisa Paul**

*Secretary, Department of Education, Science and Training*

**Mr Mike Taylor**

*Secretary, Department of Transport and Regional Services*

**Ms Helen Williams AO**

*Secretary, Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*





# Overview

In mid-2004, the Australian Government put in place innovative whole-of-government arrangements for its handling of Indigenous affairs to overcome the significant disadvantages faced by Indigenous Australians. A Ministerial Taskforce on Indigenous Affairs (MTF), comprising ministers with major programme responsibilities in Indigenous Affairs, was established to drive the Government's direction. The MTF consults with the National Indigenous Council (NIC), established to provide expert advice to the Government on Indigenous issues. The Secretaries' Group on Indigenous Affairs, also formed at this time, leads the Australian Public Service (APS) in implementing the Government's vision.

Over the past two years the Australian Government has intensified its efforts to share responsibility with Indigenous communities for shared solutions to shared problems. Increased resources have been provided in 2005–06, with expenditure on the wide range of Indigenous services totalling some \$3.03 billion.

While real gains are being made, the level of disadvantage experienced by Indigenous Australians remains high. Closing the socio-economic gap with non-Indigenous Australians—whose circumstances have also been improving—remains a major public policy challenge. There are no 'quick fix' solutions; significant steps forward are possible using improved methodologies, but an Australia where Indigenous people share equally in all the opportunities this nation has to offer will involve generational change.

There is much more to be done. Past efforts have shown that good intentions are not enough. The problems in Indigenous Affairs cannot be fixed by governments working alone. Increasingly, the Australian Government is seeking to ensure that its programmes and approaches provide incentives for Indigenous people and help prevent and mitigate the social and economic

disadvantage they and their children experience. Working together, governments and Indigenous people can make a real difference.

By identifying the performance of key Australian Government programmes, this report aims to drive further improvement in outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

## Key achievements in 2005–06

The second year of the 'new arrangements' in Indigenous affairs has seen further reforms to the way government programmes are delivered. A range of initiatives have been put in place to make programmes more flexible and responsive, while allowing individuals more opportunities to get involved and to help themselves. Under direction from the MTF, the Secretaries' Group has provided APS leadership and mobilised resources across agencies to address Indigenous issues.

## Improving access to mainstream programmes

In addition to increasing the effectiveness of Indigenous-specific programmes, Secretaries strive to ensure mainstream services reach Indigenous citizens equitably and consistent with their needs. Although Indigenous-specific services are necessary in some circumstances, their primary purpose is to complement rather than replace the mainstream.

Across their individual portfolios, Secretaries are taking steps to ensure their mainstream services are accessible and appropriate for Indigenous people. This can involve taking into account Indigenous patterns of service usage, using Indigenous-specialist service providers, and making sure services are culturally appropriate.



## Improving service quality through contestability

Indigenous people should have access to the same standard of services as other Australians in similar circumstances, and be subject to the same expectations in return. The Australian Government is keen to ensure the best services are available for all Indigenous Australians regardless of who is providing the service. For example, the Government has introduced new arrangements for the provision of legal aid services to Indigenous Australians nationally. Under these arrangements, the performance of service providers is monitored and tied to specific service targets.

The Secretaries' Group has been developing for MTF consideration a good practice model for Australian Government agencies in funding services for Indigenous people. The model will deal with issues surrounding the purpose of the funding and its administration. The model sees the primary objective of funding as efficient and effective service delivery, and that payments to service providers should be based on deliverables in terms of throughputs or outputs. To lessen administrative burden, the model favours multi-year funding commitments in preference to annual processes or annual contracts, in circumstances where the contractor has demonstrated a high standard of performance and probity.

## Creating local solutions to local problems

The 30 Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICCs) across Australia are the Government's first point of contact for establishing positive relationships with Indigenous communities and organisations, as well as coordinating Australian Government Indigenous funding into the regions. The way ICCs do their business is continuing to evolve and is based on the model that the Secretaries' Group developed in 2004.

The ICC model was a major innovation in the delivery of government programmes and services. It enabled the Australian Government to work closely with Indigenous individuals and families in their local community. In 2005–06, Secretaries took a number of steps to strengthen the ICC model. They:

- clarified the ICC model and their expectations that ICCs will operate as whole-of-government offices focused on improving service delivery to Indigenous Australians
- set the work priorities for ICCs, including more comprehensive SRAs with local Indigenous people.

Progressively, ICCs and agencies' state and territory offices are working with regional groups to develop Regional Partnership Agreements (RPAs). These agreements identify regional priorities and shared plans for the future. Increasingly, they will frame the development of local SRAs and the provision of mainstream services in discrete Indigenous communities.

The ICC model was further enhanced in October 2006 by giving ICC managers the authority to approve spending up to \$100 000 for each local initiative or project, increasing their responsiveness to local problems. Support for the ICC model is growing. In some ICCs, state and territory government staff work alongside Australian Government staff, delivering practical local solutions.

The introduction of a mentoring programme for ICC managers is further boosting the effectiveness of the ICC model. The mentors, all of whom are at the Deputy Secretary level, support and assist the ICC managers, helping them succeed in a challenging multi-agency environment.

## Reducing red tape

The Government is committed to making funding arrangements for Indigenous organisations as flexible and streamlined as possible, while ensuring that appropriate transparency and accountability is maintained.

Improvements to administrative processes are being developed, informed by an evaluation of red tape in funding arrangements with Indigenous community organisations. The evaluation was commissioned in mid-2005 and released in mid-2006<sup>a</sup>. Its aim was to provide a better understanding of the nature and extent of any undue administrative burden on organisations that provide services to Indigenous communities, and to suggest strategies to minimise that burden while maintaining accountability and risk-management objectives. The report found that some undue administrative burden did exist. It made a number of suggestions, including a need for more appropriate and focused performance indicators and less arduous reporting requirements where risk is low. Action is being taken to respond to these findings.

## Increased funding for Indigenous affairs

The Secretaries' Group each year assists the MTF to drive greater flexibility and more strategic targeting of resources through the Single Indigenous Budget Submission.

The 2005–06 Budget provided over \$23 million for funding community priorities that do not easily fit into individual agencies' responsibilities. The majority of this funding was allocated through SRAs, with ICCs

playing a central role in negotiating the agreements with communities.

Secretaries took a strong role in focusing development of the 2006–07 Indigenous Budget on genuinely coordinated, whole-of-government proposals and proposals that leverage mainstream programmes. In addition, the Australian Government announced further options for flexible funding in the 2006–07 Budget, with key portfolio agencies earmarking at least \$75 million of their combined resources over four years to SRA development and related initiatives.

## Working together

Many of the difficult problems facing Indigenous communities are interrelated and cannot be effectively addressed in isolation. Collaboration within government, and between jurisdictions and Indigenous communities, is an essential element of solving these problems.

Secretaries played a pivotal role in establishing bilateral agreements with states and territories. These agreements have identified a number of areas for joint action, consistent with the MTF's priorities and the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) principles for delivering services to Indigenous Australians<sup>b</sup>. Bilateral agreements were signed with the Northern Territory in April 2005, with Queensland in December 2005, and with New South Wales and South Australia in April 2006. These agreements are not static documents but the basis for genuine ongoing work. For example, the agreement with the Northern Territory is being implemented and extended, with a new focus on employment and economic development.

a. <http://www.oipc.gov.au/publications/PDF/RedTapeReport.pdf>

b. [http://www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/attachments\\_b.pdf](http://www.coag.gov.au/meetings/250604/attachments_b.pdf)



Increasingly, multilateral solutions are also being applied to difficult and complex issues. For example, an Intergovernmental Summit on Violence and Child Abuse in Indigenous Communities, involving ministers from the Australian Government and all states and territories, was held on 26 June 2006. This summit recognised the right of all to be safe from violence and abuse, and the importance of long-term joint efforts in achieving real breakthroughs in this difficult area. COAG subsequently endorsed a strategy for action. The Commonwealth has committed funding of \$130 million to the strategy, including \$120 million in new funds.

In May 2006, the Attorney-General, the Hon. Philip Ruddock MP, announced an Indigenous Law and Justice Initiative to fund the expansion of Family Violence Prevention Legal Services to support prevention, diversion, rehabilitation and restorative justice initiatives. In addition, the initiative will, in collaboration with the Northern Territory Government, improve Indigenous access to interpreter services in the Northern Territory.

### **Increasing economic opportunities**

Genuine economic independence for Indigenous Australians will only be achieved when they participate in and benefit from the market economy. At its most basic level, this means the chance of a job.

To help Indigenous people move into employment, reforms to the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) programme were introduced in 2005–06. The reforms built on the flexibility of CDEP by placing a stronger emphasis on performance and results, meeting the needs of individual communities and building stronger partnerships. To build on the success of these reforms, further improvements to CDEP came into effect on 1 July 2006. These new changes introduced youth rates for new participants aged 20 years or under in all locations, a requirement that participants in urban

and regional centres register with Job Network, and the development of participant plans with all CDEP participants in other areas of Australia.

The Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) has a critical leadership role in contributing to the future capability and sustainability of the APS. The APSC is driving stronger Indigenous participation in the APS. This year it achieved a marked increase in intake of Indigenous graduates through its Indigenous graduate recruitment strategy. This strategy is part of the APSC's Employment and Capability Strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employees. Its growing success shows that the Australian Government is serious about recruiting and retaining Indigenous people in the APS.

The effective use of Indigenous-owned land is another crucial aspect of economic opportunity. Significant progress in work on land rights legislation in 2005–06 culminated in the passing of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 2006* in August 2006. The reform is designed to facilitate home ownership and business development, and to streamline processes for development of Aboriginal land.

In November 2005, the Government announced the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy that focuses on two key areas: work, and asset and wealth management. Under the work component of the strategy, the Government will promote a Local Jobs for Local People initiative where Indigenous communities, employers and service providers will work together to identify local employment and business opportunities and the training need for job seekers. The asset and wealth management component of the initiative will include measures to increase Indigenous home ownership, economic development, and personal financial and commercial skills.

## Evaluation

A comprehensive evaluation framework has been put in place to ensure the Government continues to learn from and improve its efforts across the portfolio, as well as provide accountability for funds spent. The framework includes whole-of-government evaluations managed by the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC), as well as evaluation of Indigenous programmes by individual departments and independent offices such as the Office of Evaluation and Audit (Indigenous Programmes) and the Australian National Audit Office. The full evaluation plan for OIPC and a directory of recent evaluations in Indigenous Affairs across the Australian Government are both available from the OIPC website at [www.oipc.gov.au](http://www.oipc.gov.au).

Evaluations of all eight COAG trial sites will be published along with a synopsis review. When the trials commenced, the objectives were to find new ways of governments and Indigenous communities working together to achieve better outcomes. Valuable lessons are emerging about what is working well and what could be improved. Findings indicate that trial partners saw better relationships being built between governments and communities, and among governments.

Reviews of individual SRAs are under way. The initial reviews show a lot of public goodwill among Indigenous people towards SRAs. The SRA process provides a good opportunity for Indigenous people to talk with government and this opportunity is being appreciated. However, the reviews identified some areas for improvement, which the Secretaries Group is now addressing. Improvements include focusing more on shared responsibility with individuals and families rather than community organisations alone; improving performance indicators in SRAs; and seeking to maintain an ongoing working relationship with SRA partners after

the agreement has been signed.

## The way forward

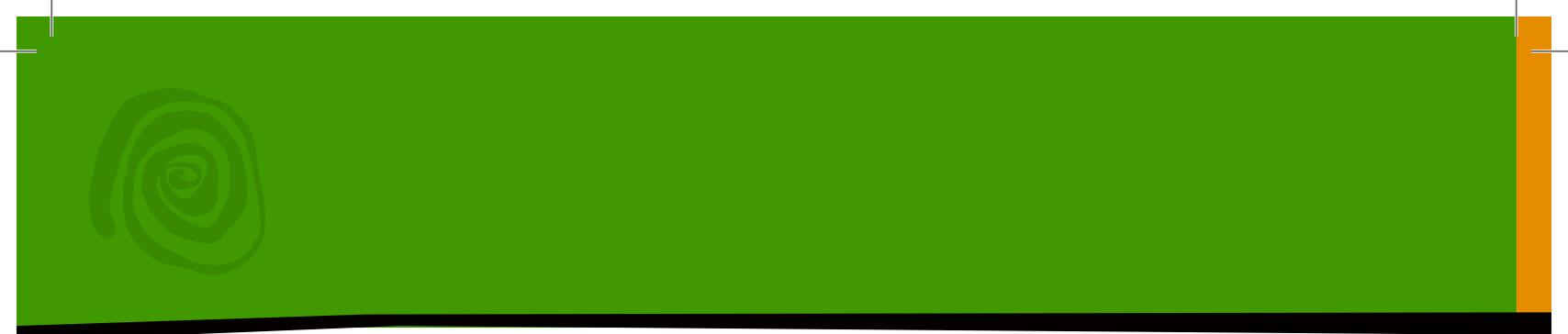
Arising from the Single Indigenous Budget Submission process managed by the MTF, a record \$3.3 billion will be spent in 2006–07 on services for Indigenous Australians. Twenty-four initiatives have begun across six portfolios. These initiatives improve the ability of Indigenous people to access the same opportunities as other Australians—including, for example, access to better food choices through Outback Stores, access to quality education through an Indigenous boarding college, and access to telecommunication and internet services through the Backing Indigenous Ability initiative.

Flexibility and innovation are crucial, as complex, layered problems cannot be resolved through standard intervention measures applied in isolation. Integrated approaches are being developed in key areas, drawing on a comprehensive understanding of the needs of different communities.

Effective collaboration across and between governments will be of central importance, facilitated by the bilateral agreements that have been agreed between jurisdictions. Extending the scope of these agreements will be important, as will overcoming bureaucratic impediments to implementation. The lessons learnt from the evaluation programme will provide useful input in this regard.

## The reporting framework

The remainder of this annual report provides comprehensive performance information for each of the key Australian Government programmes that assist Indigenous people. This information has been organised using the seven strategic areas for action from the *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage (OID)* reports,



commissioned by the COAG and published by the Productivity Commission<sup>c</sup>. The seven strategic areas for action are areas where governments and Indigenous Australians working together can make a difference in the shorter term. They are:

- early childhood development and growth
- early school engagement and performance
- positive childhood and transition to adulthood
- substance use and misuse
- functional and resilient families and communities
- effective environmental health systems
- economic participation and development.

Because it will take generational change to achieve parity in the headline indicators of disadvantage, such as the 17-year life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, COAG decided to monitor progress in these seven strategic areas for action. Based on a model of causal logic, COAG believed that if it could see improvements in these seven areas in the short term, it could be reasonably confident that the gap in the headline indicators of Indigenous disadvantage would be closed in the longer term.

Using the same causal logic, this report allows an assessment to be made of the Australian Government's progress in working with Indigenous people to achieve better outcomes. The picture that emerges suggests good progress in areas such as early school engagement, childhood and transition to adulthood, environmental health and economic participation. This is encouraging, and momentum needs to be maintained in these key areas to achieve change over the longer term. However, the report suggests some areas of tentative progress where a focus needs to be maintained. These

include early childhood as well as functional and resilient families and communities.

Substance use and misuse is an area where more attention is needed. Here, improvements are limited, although to some extent general trends mirror what is happening in the non-Indigenous population. For example, the increase in the proportion of adults reporting alcohol consumption at risky/high-risk levels among Indigenous Australians is comparable to that among non-Indigenous Australians. This area highlights a key challenge in overcoming Indigenous disadvantage and the need for shared solutions. The Australian Government alone can only go so far. Ultimately, individuals need to make the right choices for their own wellbeing.

Although the majority of the report is about Indigenous-specific programmes, it includes a number of examples of how mainstream programmes have been used to improve servicing to Indigenous people.

This report does not attempt to comprehensively cover all Australian Government Indigenous programmes or programmes with a major Indigenous component; rather, it attempts to capture significant programmes. A full list of 2005–06 Australian Government Indigenous expenditure can be found in the Appendix to this report.

The Secretaries' Group acknowledges the commitment and dedication of all APS staff and Indigenous communities in making a difference for Indigenous Australians in 2005–06, and looks forward to continuing progress in the coming year.

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c. <http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/reports/indigenous/keyindicators2005/index.html>

# Early childhood development and growth

It is widely recognised that health and educational outcomes in later life are greatly influenced by the health, growth and development of children in their first three years of life. Indigenous children currently experience higher rates of infant mortality, low birthweight, hearing impediments and hospitalisation for infectious diseases. Improved access to Indigenous child health services is a priority. The Australian Government committed additional funding to this in 2005–06 through its Healthy for Life initiative. However, the Government also recognises that a broad range of social, cultural, physical and economic factors influence positive early childhood development. In particular, supporting families and communities by providing quality childcare, employment opportunities, and parenting support strengthens their ability to foster the development of their children.

## Outcomes:

- In South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory, where there is good data, the Indigenous infant mortality rate decreased by 44 per cent between 1991 and 2003.
- Hospitalisation for infectious diseases in Indigenous children under four fell slightly between 2001–02 and 2002–03 (from 115.4 to 110.7 per 1000).
- The percentage of low birthweight Indigenous babies remained stable between 1996 and 2002 at 13 per cent, compared to 6 per cent of non-Indigenous babies over the same period.

## Key programmes

### Healthy for Life

Healthy for Life is a new programme, announced in the 2005–06 Budget with \$102.4 million of funding over four years. It is designed to improve the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care services to provide quality child and maternal health services and chronic disease care. It also includes measures to improve the capacity of the Indigenous health workforce. The programme complements and builds on existing Indigenous-specific and mainstream primary health care services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Implementation of the programme is ahead of schedule, with 53 applicants approved for Healthy for Life activities at the end of 2005–06. Participating organisations will be asked to demonstrate improvement, or progress towards short, medium and long-term key programme outcomes.

- Expenditure and commitments 2005–06: \$5.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 53 applicants approved for Healthy for Life activities
  - ▶ 26 health-related scholarships funded under the Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme.



### Harnessing the mainstream in child care

To complement Indigenous-specific child care services, there are numerous mainstream child care services. These mainstream services need to be culturally appropriate to be attractive and accessible to Indigenous children and families.

To improve access to mainstream child care services for Indigenous people, the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA) has adopted a new Inclusion and Professional Support Programme. Under the programme, 67 regionally based Inclusion Support Agencies will be responsible for ensuring that all children have access to high-quality child care. The agencies will manage a network of facilitators to help child care services build their skills and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, those from other culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability. The programme will help ensure that child care is inclusive and responsive to the needs of Indigenous families.

Under the programme, child care services can also access bicultural support. This is time-limited specialist support to help a child care service build its capacity to include children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, refugee children or Indigenous children. Examples of bicultural support include on-site language assistance and advice on cultural practices that will help services to develop a good relationship with the child's family.



### National Immunisation Programme

Through this programme the Australian Government now provides free Hepatitis A vaccine for all Indigenous children under five years of age living in Queensland, the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia. Before this commenced, Hepatitis A, a viral illness that affects the liver, had caused the deaths of six Indigenous children in north Queensland and Western Australia. This initiative commenced on 1 November 2005—at the same time as the new varicella (chickenpox) and inactivated polio vaccine programmes. Over four years, the Australian Government will provide \$1.6 million for this programme.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$0.7 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - funding provided in three states and a territory.



Sheree McLennan, Tanaya Kickett (child) - Coolbaroo Neighbourhood Centre (Peedac Pty Ltd) in Perth.

## Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Services

The Australian Government funds a number of different childcare services for Indigenous people, including Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Services. These services were specifically established to meet the social and developmental needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. They provide a range of child care programmes, including long day care, playgroups, outside school hours care, vacation care and cultural programmes. The services provide family support and have a strong emphasis on early intervention programmes. In addition, they have a flow-on effect benefiting Indigenous communities, as families are able to participate in the economic and social life of the community.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$11.0 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 33 services funded.

## Mobile Services and Toy Libraries

Indigenous children in rural and remote communities have more limited access to child care services. To cater for these children, mobile child care services and toy libraries operate outside the large population centres. They provide flexible child care, playgroup sessions, vacation care, on-farm care, home visits, toy and video lending libraries and social support for families.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$2.5 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 19 services funded.

## Indigenous Children Programme

The Indigenous Children Programme (ICP) commenced in January 2006 as a merger between the Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Agencies programme and the Indigenous Parenting and Family Wellbeing (IPFW) programme. The programme aims to deliver better outcomes for Indigenous children and families through culturally sensitive early intervention and prevention programmes and services. These include improved access to child care, increased resources, better parenting support and strengthened social and community networks.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$5.9 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 34 services funded.



Mother and child in Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yakunytjatjara Lands



Minjilang, Northern Territory

# Early school engagement and performance

**E**arly school performance impacts on later academic success, which then affects employment prospects and income levels. Although there has been a gradual improvement in the proportion of Indigenous students achieving the Year 3 literacy and numeracy benchmark, it is still significantly lower than for non-Indigenous students. To help change this, the Australian Government provides funding for a number of targeted programmes including \$14 million over 2005–08 for an accelerated literacy method, Scaffolding Literacy. Out of 100 Northern Territory schools to adopt using the method, 90 per cent will be in remote areas with high Indigenous populations.

School performance has also been shown to be heavily influenced by preschool and school attendance levels. The Australian Government currently provides funding through a number of SRAs for additional school and community facilities. In some instances, Indigenous communities have agreed to increase school attendance in return for the facilities. For example, swimming pools have been installed in a number of communities who have in turn adopted a No School, No Pool policy to increase school attendance.

More generally, a healthy and supportive environment impacts significantly on early school engagement. Improvements in overall health status can increase a child's capacity to learn. Similarly, interventions which impact on community governance and safety, substance use and levels of economic participation help to create an atmosphere in which learning can take place.

## Outcomes:

- In 2004:
  - ▶ 83 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 3 reading benchmark—up from 73 per cent in 1999.
  - ▶ 77 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 3 writing benchmark—up from 67 per cent in 1999.
  - ▶ 79 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 3 numeracy benchmark—up from 74 per cent in 2000.

## Key programmes

### Supplementary Recurrent Assistance for preschools, schools and vocational and technical education

Supplementary Recurrent Assistance is the largest element of the Australian Government's Indigenous education programme. It provides per-capita funding to preschool, school (both government and non-government), and vocational and technical education (VTE) sectors. This funding is supplementary to mainstream funding and is used to accelerate improvements in educational outcomes for Indigenous students.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$180.0 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ Funding is in relation to all Indigenous students attending contracted institutions and systems.



## Dare to Lead—Making a Difference

The Australian Government has allocated funding from 2005 to 2008 for the third phase of the Dare to Lead—Making a Difference project. The project, delivered by the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council, engages school principals from around Australia to form a coalition of schools committed to improving educational outcomes for Indigenous students. At 30 June 2006, total membership had reached 3900 schools.

- Expenditure 2005-2008: \$8 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ Increase in coalition of schools membership by more than 1000 between April 2005 and June 2006, to a total membership of 3900.

## Whole of School Intervention Strategy

The Whole of School Intervention (WoSI) Strategy was introduced in early 2005 and has two elements: the Parent School Partnerships Initiative (PSPi) and Homework Centres. PSPi projects encourage creative approaches to improving educational outcomes for Indigenous school students, supplementing mainstream education services. They bring together the parents of Indigenous school students, Indigenous communities and schools to work to remove local barriers to education, and may provide a mechanism for capacity-building in Indigenous communities. Homework Centres provide a supportive environment where Indigenous students can complete their homework and study.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$25 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 1310 Parent School Partnership Initiative projects approved from 2005 funding rounds and 453 from first of two funding rounds in 2006
  - ▶ 327 Homework Centres approved from 2005 funding rounds and 94 from first of two funding rounds in 2006.

## What Works Project

The What Works Project supports teachers across Australia to improve educational outcomes for Indigenous students through professional development workshops and the sharing of best practice. The project focuses on initiating change in teaching practices at the school level.

The project supports the development of a learning framework by encouraging the sharing of information and experience about what is or is not working. One component of the project is the What Works website, which enables best practice to be shared through the presentation of case studies on Indigenous education initiatives. Many of the case studies are drawn from schools and other organisations that have been involved in the What Works workshops or the Dare to Lead project. They are intended to inform and inspire innovative ways of teaching Indigenous students.



# Positive childhood and transition to adulthood

**T**he transition from childhood to adulthood is an important phase in life that builds on early childhood experiences and sets future directions. The Australian Government's effort in this area reflects the importance of educational outcomes for the future of young people, as well as the crucial role of positive activities in building confidence and self-esteem. Activities supported include organised sport, arts, leadership and community group initiatives. As well as providing new skills and opportunities, these activities play an important role in diverting youth from substance misuse and juvenile crime.

## Outcomes:

- In 2004:
  - ▶ 69 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 5 reading benchmark—up from 62 per cent in 2000.
  - ▶ 82 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 5 writing benchmark—up from 74 per cent in 2000.
  - ▶ 69 per cent of Indigenous students achieved the Year 5 numeracy benchmark—up from 63 per cent in 2000.
- From 2003 to 2004, the proportion of Indigenous students meeting the Year 7 reading, writing and numeracy benchmarks all increased, including an increase from 66 to 71 per cent of students meeting the reading benchmark.
- The proportion of Indigenous children who stay on at school through to Year 12 has risen, from 29.2 per cent in 1996 to 39.5 per cent in 2005.
- Detention rates for Indigenous juveniles have declined significantly in the past decade—from 413.9 per 100 000 relevant population at 30 June 1994 to 320.9 per 100 000 population at 30 June 2003.

## Key programmes

### Aboriginal Study Assistance Scheme

The Aboriginal Study Assistance Scheme (ABSTUDY) helps Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who want to continue their secondary schooling, or go onto further studies. The Scheme provides a means-tested living allowance and some supplementary benefits to eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander full-time students at both secondary and tertiary levels. In addition, students taking less than a full-time study load may qualify for part-time secondary benefits.

- Expenditure 2005–06 for ABSTUDY Tertiary: \$56.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 18 002 recipients
- Expenditure 2005–06 for ABSTUDY Secondary: \$108.2 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 37 341 recipients.

### Indigenous Support Programme

The Indigenous Support Programme (ISP), previously the Indigenous Support Fund, gives additional funding to higher education institutions to help them meet the special needs of Indigenous Australian students, and to advance the goals of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy (AEP). The Programme assists Indigenous higher education students by providing higher education institutions with additional resources to enable the students to enhance their educational experience through improved access, retention and participation.

While the total number of Indigenous students undertaking higher education remains largely unchanged, Indigenous graduates continue to have higher take-up



rates into full-time employment than non-Indigenous graduates. The Indigenous take-up rate was 80.1 per cent in 2004 compared with the non-Indigenous rate of 78.6 per cent.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$27.1 million.

### Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme

The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) helps Indigenous school and tertiary students get better results. The assistance can take several forms including:

- ▶ In-class assistance—literacy and/or numeracy tuition in the classroom
- ▶ Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition—outside school or during study periods
- ▶ ITAS for Remote Indigenous Students—allowing Indigenous school students from remote communities to attend school in a non-remote location or to attend a remote boarding school.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$45.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 41 institutions received ITAS tertiary tuition funding in 2006.

### Away from Base

Away from Base funding helps institutions meet travel, meals and accommodation costs while a student or staff member is away from their normal place of residence as part of a 'mixed-mode' course of study (a combination of distance and face-to-face education). It helps Indigenous students access and participate in higher education and vocational and technical education.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$40.5 million.

### Indigenous Youth Mobility Programme and Indigenous Youth Leadership Programme

The Indigenous Youth Mobility Programme (IYMP) directly supports remote post-schooling students to undertake the post-secondary training and employment opportunities in major centres that they need to achieve their career goals. Through the IYMP participants may undertake post-secondary options including pre-vocational training, certificate courses, Australian Apprenticeships or tertiary courses such as those leading to qualifications in nursing, teaching, business management and accounting. These skills are in high demand in remote areas.

The Indigenous Youth Leadership Programme (IYLP) aims to identify and develop future Indigenous leaders by offering a scholarship to young Indigenous people with leadership potential. The programme is for both school and university students. The first five tertiary scholarship recipients commenced study in first semester 2006.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$7.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 64 young Indigenous people from remote areas relocated to one of the 10 IYMP host locations and commenced training.
  - ▶ 5 tertiary scholarship recipients commenced study.

## Dunghutti Youth Programme

The Dunghutti Youth Programme operates in the Kempsey community of northern New South Wales, helping youth at-risk to achieve sustainable improvement in their lives. The programme was started in 1995 by Aboriginal elders to reinforce traditional cultural values and identity for young Indigenous men in the Kempsey community.

The Dunghutti Youth Programme operated on very limited resources, which severely restricted the number of Indigenous youth that could participate. The signing of a SRA between the Australian Government, the Kempsey Community and the Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service confirms the long-term future of the programme. The SRA will support the Dunghutti Youth Programme with the development of a permanent campsite hosting up to 160 at risk Aboriginal youth at up to eight camps a year. It will also provide camping equipment and training and accreditation for the facilitators running the camp.

Kempsey community members and elders who are currently responsible for running the camps will undertake training to become accredited

youth workers. In addition, they will be responsible for linking with other programmes and initiatives in the area that support at-risk youth, and for lobbying local business and services to sponsor the programme. Local families will be accountable for sending their children to the camps and participating in and running local programmes, cultural activities and events.

The SRA is expected to strengthen the cultural identity of the Indigenous youth involved. It aims to increase school retention rates while lowering the youth crime rate of the young Indigenous people participating in this SRA.



Elders and Uncles leading the Dunghutti Youth Programme SRA together with Kempsey youth





### Activities for East Kimberley Indigenous youth

The Department of Transport and Regional Services has worked with communities to give young people in the East Kimberley region opportunities to broaden their view of the world and participate in activities that allow them to build skills and confidence.

In October 2005, the department sponsored a group of young people from the Balgo, Mulan and Billiluna community schools on a sight-seeing expedition to Canberra which included visits to Parliament House, the War Memorial and a memorable trip to the snow. More recently, in June 2006, the department supported 30 elders and youth to participate in a 'Back to Country' trip managed by the Yiriman Project. Yiriman provides Walmajarri Law and Culture bosses with opportunities to involve youth in projects on their country. This unique and proactive project provides opportunities in youth leadership, land management and community development.

In October 2006, teenagers and their coaches travelled to Canberra to attend the Barassi International Australian Football Youth Tournament. Participation in this event has been tied to an incentive programme to encourage school attendance.



Living it up in the snow: Tallis Brumby on a sight-seeing expedition to Canberra and surrounds



**S**ubstance use and misuse has the capacity to impact on every aspect of a person's life. It may directly or indirectly affect measures of life expectancy, disability, employment, income, imprisonment, domestic violence and sexual abuse. Alcohol and tobacco use are significant contributors to the 17 year life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

The Australian Government adopts a holistic approach to reducing the harm caused by substance use and misuse. As well as targeting issues of supply and availability, efforts are in place to support families and communities in addressing substance issues as well as preventing substance use through education and diversionary programmes. The Government also funds a number of substance use services through the Primary Health Care Access Programme, which is discussed in the following section.

## Outcomes:

- After adjusting for age differences, Indigenous adults in 2004–05 were still twice as likely as non-Indigenous adults to smoke daily (46 per cent compared to 21 per cent), the same ratio as in 2001.
- After adjusting for age differences, the proportion of Indigenous adults reporting alcohol consumption at risky/high-risk levels increased slightly between 2001 and 2004–05 (12 per cent to 15 per cent). This change was consistent with the non-Indigenous population, which also reported a slight rise in risky/high-risk alcohol consumption (11 per cent to 13 per cent).

## Key programmes

### Petrol Sniffing Prevention Programme

The Petrol Sniffing Prevention Programme is a Department of Health and Ageing initiative designed to reduce the incidence of petrol sniffing in remote Indigenous communities. This is achieved through a multi-pronged approach. Remote Indigenous communities and all fuel outlets in the target regions are supplied with non-sniffable, unleaded Opal fuel, and supplies of regular unleaded fuel are then removed. Outlets selling Opal fuel and targeted communities are also provided with information and resources on Opal fuel and petrol sniffing. The programme works with the relevant state and territory governments to improve the availability of appropriate treatment and respite services for petrol sniffers within the designated regions. By the end of 2005–06, 59 communities and 22 roadhouses/service stations are part of the programme.

In the central desert region of central Australia, the programme is part of the wider Petrol Sniffing Strategy. This strategy was developed with the support of a range of Australian Government departments as well as the Western Australian, South Australian and Northern Territory governments, and is based on an eight-point plan of action. The eight points are consistent legislation, appropriate levels of policing, further roll-out of non-sniffable petrol, alternative activities for young people, treatment and respite facilities, communication and education strategies, strengthening and supporting communities, and evaluation.

- Expenditure and commitments 2005–06: \$2.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - 21 communities joined the programme.
  - 13 roadhouses/service stations in Alice Springs joined the programme.



## Tough on Drugs

The Australian Government implements a range of funding agreements under the *Tough on Drugs* Indigenous Community Initiative. This funding allows Indigenous communities to develop local solutions to critical issues that contribute to violence, such as alcohol and drug abuse. The *Tough on Drugs* projects address the key areas for action identified in the *National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Complementary Action Plan 2003-2009*.

Examples of projects funded include the development of Indigenous-specific clinical practice guidelines for the treatment and management of alcohol-related problems, a website to be used as a source of knowledge and information about the health and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples, and a programme to deliver drug and alcohol services in the Pilbara, including outreach services.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$2.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 14 projects funded.

## Supporting Families Coping with Illicit Drug Use

The Strengthening Families Programme is an early intervention, family-focused component of the cross-portfolio National Illicit Drugs Strategy. Assistance is specifically directed towards support for families (including parents, grandparents, kinship carers and children of drug-using parents) who are affected by substance abuse. Such support includes parent education, counselling, advice and referral services, and targeted projects for families. In addition to the Indigenous-specific services funded under the programme, a number of mainstream services provide assistance to Indigenous people.

Although the programme is managed by FaCSIA, its officers actively collaborate across the youth, mental health, and alcohol and other drugs sectors.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$0.6 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 4 Indigenous services funded
  - ▶ 187 families assisted
  - ▶ 68 education and training workshops conducted.

## Retailers Responsible Sale of Volatile Substances Project

The Retailers Responsible Sale of Volatile Substances Project is a pilot project funded under the *Tough on Drugs* programme. This project commenced in 2005–06 and will continue into 2006–07. It aims to enable people living in the Palmerston Indigenous Village and other Indigenous communities in the Darwin and Palmerston areas to minimise the harm associated with solvent misuse, decrease crime related to solvent misuse, and improve their social and emotional wellbeing.

A resource, the *Guidelines for the responsible sale of volatile substances*, is currently being produced to provide education to retailers of solvent products.



# Functional and resilient families and communities

**F**amilies and communities are the mainstay of our society. In order to be functional and resilient they need to be healthy, free of violence and culturally vibrant.

Fundamental to functional and resilient families and communities is the right of all Australians to be safe from family violence and abuse. An Intergovernmental Summit on Violence and Child Abuse in Indigenous Communities, involving ministers from the Australian Government and all states and territories, was held on 26 June 2006. It resulted in renewed efforts towards a comprehensive national response, with a particular focus on establishing law and order in Indigenous communities. This complements the existing Australian Government programmes that address the underlying causes of violence to ensure solutions are sustainable.

## Outcomes:

- In 2002, 27.5 per cent of Indigenous people attended recreational or cultural group activities, and 20.2 per cent participated in community or special interest group activities.
- The rate of Indigenous deaths in custody has decreased—from 6.0 per 1000 in 1995 to 1.4 per 1000 in 2004.
- Nationally the estimated life expectancy at birth for Indigenous Australians is unacceptably low—about 17 years less than for other Australians. Though there is a very long way to go, gains have been made in some areas. For example:
  - Between 2000 and 2003 Indigenous female life expectancy in the Northern Territory jumped from 65 to 68 years. This is the first well documented report of improvements in Indigenous life expectancy in Australia, and at least some of the gain can be reasonably attributed to increased government investment in Indigenous health services.

- In the Northern Territory recent research has shown an easing of the increases in death rates, or even falling death rates, for the most common chronic diseases since the end of the 1980s. For example:
  - Diabetes—Annual 13.5 per cent increase in the death rate from 1977 to 1989 slowed to a 3.2 per cent annual increase from 1990 to 2001.
  - Ischaemic heart disease (the biggest killer)—The annual increase in the death rate was cut from 5.7 per cent to 1.1 per cent.
  - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (chronic bronchitis and emphysema)—The 3.5 per cent a year rise in the death rate reversed in the 1990s to a 5.7 per cent annual drop.
  - Stroke and rheumatic heart disease—Death rates have improved slightly.
- These positive outcomes are corroborated by evidence of decreases in overall Indigenous mortality in Western Australia and South Australia from circulatory disease.

## Key programmes

Functional and resilient families and communities enjoy positive physical and mental health outcomes, which in turn build family and community strength. As for all Australians, the health and wellbeing of Indigenous people may be improved by access to quality health and aged care services. The Australian Government has a number of programmes in place in this area, including Indigenous-specific primary health care services, as well as measures to improve access to the mainstream where barriers to Indigenous participation exist.



## Health services in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

The Government committed over \$320 million to fund Indigenous-specific primary health care services during 2005–06. Approximately two-thirds of this funds health care services and organisations dedicated specifically to meeting the health needs of Indigenous Australians and their communities. A further third was allocated to improve access to these health services through capital works projects and significant increases in staffing under the Primary Health Care Access Programme (PHCAP).

In 2003, a series of papers were commissioned to provide information and advice to government as a part of a Review of the Australian Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Programme. The review concluded that the PHCAP should continue to be used as the major vehicle for additional funding and for the development of effective partnerships and plans.

### Primary Health Care Service Delivery:

During 2005–06, the Australian Government funded 235 organisations to provide primary health care, substance use and mental health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

- Expenditure and commitments 2005–06: \$252 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 235 primary health care, substance use and mental health services.

### Primary Health Care Access Programme:

During 2005–06, further expansion of the PHCAP resulted in the additional engagement of 7 general practitioners, 18 nurses, 16 Aboriginal health workers and over 100 service and support workers. This brings

the total of new health professionals and support workers funded through PHCAP since 2003–04 to over 400. Along with other health programmes, PHCAP also allocated funding to capital works projects including improving and adding facilities, and constructing staff houses in remote areas. In addition, health care services in four remote sites—Toomelah (NSW), Wadeye (NT), the Wheatbelt Region (WA) and the Cape York Peninsula (Qld)—were substantially increased.

- Expenditure and commitments 2005–06: \$70.6 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ more than 140 additional staff
  - ▶ 30 capital works projects to improve facilities
  - ▶ 22 staff houses in remote areas.

## Medicare arrangements

Special arrangements have been made to improve access to Medicare by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The *Health Insurance Act 1973* does not allow Medicare benefits to be paid for services provided by either Commonwealth or state/territory funded health care facilities. However, under subsection 19(2) of the Health Insurance Act, Medicare benefits may now be paid for services provided by salaried doctors in Australian Government-funded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care services and in agreed state/territory funded clinics in the Northern Territory and Queensland.

- Estimated expenditure 2005–06: \$18.3 million.

## Indigenous Culture Support

Indigenous Culture Support funds activities that maintain the depth and diversity of cultural practice within Indigenous communities. It promotes Indigenous cultures as dynamic and integral elements of Australian culture and identity.

In 2005–06, funding was provided for 147 activities across Australia, including contributions to 13 Shared Responsibility Agreements. The focus was on local or regional cultural centres open to the public, activities supporting the maintenance and revival of cultural practice, and presenting Indigenous arts and cultures to the general public through activities such as cultural festivals, exhibitions, ceremonial activities, dance performances, theatre and literary displays.

One organisation supported was Kurruru Indigenous Youth Performing Arts Inc, who were funded to undertake youth workshops in singing, dance, drama and multi-media, and cross-generational sessions of storytelling and cultural learning. The group conducts country and city projects. A performance highlight was 'Crossing Paths', which won Best Dance Performance in the 2006 Adelaide Fringe Festival.



The NAISDA Dancers perform at this year's Yabun festival, a free celebration of Indigenous music held in Redfern Park on Thursday 26 January 2006. The Yabun Festival was funded under the Indigenous Culture Support Programme.  
Photographer: Mervyn Bishop.

## Aged care grants for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

The Australian Government supports aged care for Indigenous Australians under both the *Aged Care Act 1997*, and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy. The Aged Care Strategy provides culturally appropriate aged care for older people from Indigenous communities, mainly in rural and remote areas. The Strategy includes around 600 residential care places and 29 services.

Mainstream providers funded under the *Aged Care Act 1997* also provide services for Indigenous Australians. In 2005, the Government approved 252 new places with a particular focus on the provision of care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Similarly, the Home and Community Care (HACC) programme, cost-shared by the Australian Government with the states and territories, provides services to Indigenous people.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$17.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - 600 Indigenous aged-care residential placements.



*Legal aid exists because the justice system is not equally accessible to everybody. Indigenous people in particular experience difficulty obtaining legal support. Through a range of legal services, legal aid improves Indigenous people's access to justice and ensures that Indigenous people can understand and protect their rights.*

### **Legal Aid for Indigenous Australians Programme**

This programme funds organisations to deliver legal services to Indigenous Australians. This includes funding for Indigenous test cases, which promote the review of laws and administrative practices that have the effect of discriminating against Indigenous Australians.

In 2005–06, the Government completed the implementation of its new approach to streamlining the provision of legal aid services to Indigenous Australians through legal service contracts. Following a tender process in each state and territory (the ACT was part of the NSW tender process), new contracts have been signed with nine service providers across Australia; there had been 24 service providers under previous arrangements. The performance of service providers is tied to specific service targets evaluated mainly through the submission of reports on client data and the provider's ongoing income and expenditure. An evaluation of this programme, to be conducted by the Office of Evaluation and Audit (Indigenous Programmes), is planned for 2007.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$48.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 16 organisations funded
  - ▶ transition from the grant-funded programme funding agreements to contract based service provision.

### **PY Ku Network**

The PY Ku Network has already had a significant impact across the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in South Australia, providing access to much needed government and non-government services in the region. Delivery of Centrelink and Service SA (South Australian government) services has commenced at Mimili and Amata. In time, services will be provided through a networked group of seven centres in the main communities across the APY Lands: Iwantja (Indulkana), Mimili, Kaltjiti (Fregon), Pukatja (Ernabella), Amata, Pipalyatjara/Kalka and Watarru.

The network is managed by an Anangu regional organisation and will provide essential office and communications infrastructure for visitors. It also links service delivery with training and employment opportunities. There are already 7 Anangu employed through the network with a further 21 positions likely in the future.

There are approximately twenty partners at the regional, Australian and South Australian Government levels contributing services, resources, funding and support to this initiative, making it a real whole-of-government project.



*Indigenous people may need temporary accommodation for a variety of reasons, including access to services away from home and homelessness. Temporary accommodation plays an important role in community life not just by providing a place to stay, but by facilitating access to other necessary services.*

### **Company owned and operated hostels**

Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL) is funded by the Australian Government to provide affordable, temporary accommodation and meals to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through a national network of 119 hostels. The hostels assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to achieve personal goals and to obtain dignity and equity in the Australian community. AHL is one of the largest employers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia. In addition, AHL supports government programmes in health, education, employment, training and aged care.

AHL was evaluated by the Office of Evaluation and Audit (Indigenous Programmes) in 2004. The evaluation found that AHL hostels are meeting a real need for accommodation for many people who have to travel a long distance to access important services. The evaluation also noted that there is an opportunity for AHL and the Council of Australian Governments to better coordinate the matching of demand and supply for Indigenous housing and accommodation.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$36.9 million
- Outputs:
  - more than 3000 beds provided across the country each night
  - more than 2 000 000 meals served per year.

### **Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme**

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme (SAAP) is a mainstream programme jointly funded by the Australian, state and territory governments. It provides crisis accommodation and support to people who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness. A number of SAAP agencies specifically target Indigenous clients; however, Indigenous clients can also access any of the 1133 SAAP agencies. In 2004–05, 16.4 per cent of all SAAP clients were Indigenous.

SAAP clients receive a range of support and assistance besides accommodation. This may include assistance to obtain or maintain independent housing; assistance accessing government payments; assistance obtaining employment or training; family violence counselling; living skills and personal support programmes; drug and alcohol intervention; and basic personal support services such as meals, laundry and showers.

The SAAP IV Agreement was last evaluated in May 2004. The flexibility of SAAP was rated as a major strength of the programme.

- Expenditure 2005–06 (Indigenous component): \$36.0 million (\$19.8 million in Commonwealth funding)
- Outputs for 2005–06:
  - 167 agencies targeting Indigenous clients
- Outputs for 2004–05:
  - 15 900 Indigenous clients supported
  - 27 600 client support periods.



### The Murdi Paaki COAG Trial Site

The Murdi Paaki COAG trial is a great example of governments and Indigenous communities working in partnership. The partners to the trial site are the Department of Education, Science and Training, the NSW Department of Education and Training and the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly. Improving the relationship between governments and Indigenous communities, building trust and community capacity, has taken time and energy, but promising results are now emerging.

The Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly identifies and drives Indigenous communities' priorities at the regional level. Most recently, the Assembly identified employment and economic development as a key priority for the region. In response, a joint Australian and NSW government strategy is being developed with communities to improve employment and economic development. Workshops focusing on mining, tourism and small business have been scheduled to bring together potential employers

and Indigenous communities. At the local level, each of the 16 major Murdi Paaki communities has completed a Community Action Plan, outlining its key priorities and ways of working with government to address them.

Regular community governance workshops have been held to build community leadership and governance capacity. These complement the day-to-day work of the Action Team, who are the faces of government on the ground in the region. The workshops give communities the opportunity to speak directly with ministers and executives from both Australian and NSW governments. For example, the Minister for Education Science and Training, the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, attended the most recent Murdi Paaki workshop in May this year. As part of her visit, the Minister met with students and community members at the Lightning Ridge Central School. A highlight was the presentation of books to students as part of the Books in Homes initiative.



*Everyone should be able to live in a safe environment, free from violence and abuse. Strategies to achieve this in Indigenous communities must help families take control of their lives and regain responsibility for their families and communities. Programmes in this area are therefore designed to be flexible and responsive to local needs, and to address the root causes of violence.*

### **Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Programme**

The Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) programme funds units that provide legal, counselling and community promotion services to Indigenous Australians in rural and remote high-need areas. In 2005–06, the programme was expanded, with 13 new units becoming fully operational, increasing the network to 26 FVPLS units. The number of Indigenous Australians assisted is expected to increase throughout 2006–07 as these new units become more established.

The FVPLS programme underwent an internal audit in March–July 2005, with the final report tabled in December 2005. It found that the FVPLS is achieving its desired outcomes, and would continue to improve by implementing the report's recommendations, as well as through existing initiatives for continued improvement.

The programme is managed by the Attorney-General's Department, which has developed and maintained close relationships with other government agencies such as FaCSIA and the Department of Health and Ageing, to collaborate on projects and provide information on services.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$11.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 26 organisations funded
  - ▶ approximately 6200 Indigenous Australians assisted through provision of 10 700 legal, counselling and community promotion service activities.

### **Family Violence Partnership Programme**

The Family Violence Partnership Programme (FVPP) is an important part of the Australian Government's commitment to tackling family violence and child abuse. It funds sustainable initiatives that reduce or prevent Indigenous family violence and child abuse. Projects are undertaken in partnership with states and territories throughout Australia.

Projects may enhance existing services or establish new ones and include:

- ▶ education and awareness about family violence (including kits for schools)
  - ▶ support, counselling and mentoring for victims
  - ▶ community patrols
  - ▶ 'safe houses' and community centres
  - ▶ recruiting, employing and training family violence community workers
  - ▶ culture-based activities promoting family wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Expenditure 2005–06: \$11 million
  - Outputs 2005–06:
    - ▶ 37 projects funded.



*Organised arts, sport, cultural and community group activities have an important role to play in strengthening communities by increasing social cohesion. They can also result in a number of other benefits, such as physical fitness or improved economic prospects. Programmes that help Indigenous people maintain their cultural strength can also work to build stronger communities. This includes fostering the connection Indigenous people feel towards their land, which holds a special place in cultural life.*

### **Indigenous Protected Areas Programme**

The Indigenous Protected Areas Programme (IPA Programme) is a National Investment Stream project funded by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust. Indigenous communities with IPA projects report positive socioeconomic outcomes as a result of Indigenous engagement in land management. The area of Indigenous-owned or controlled land protected and managed through the IPA Programme is in excess of 14 million hectares.

An evaluation of the National Investment Stream programme found that the IPA Programme was consistent with relevant guidelines and objectives, and contributed to 'programmes operated by government departments to achieve employment, education and training, health, ageing and family outcomes for Indigenous communities'.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$2.5 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - declaration of an Indigenous Protected Area over the 256 000 hectare Groote Eylandt archipelago in the Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory
  - 20 Indigenous Protected Area projects supported
  - 9 consultation projects supported.

### **Maintenance of Indigenous Languages and Records**

Indigenous language use is an important indicator of cultural wellbeing, which has positive effects on health, employment and education. The Maintenance of Indigenous Language and Records programme supports the revival and maintenance of Indigenous languages as living systems of knowledge shared by communities and passed down from generation to generation.

Activities funded include recording and documenting languages; language teaching; developing teaching materials; advocacy; and promotion and revival of Indigenous languages. The National Indigenous Languages Survey Report was released in early 2006 and is the most comprehensive study of the status of Indigenous languages and language records ever undertaken in Australia. The programme also includes funding for endangered languages (defined as those with fewer than 20 speakers). For example, the Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture received \$126 000 to maintain twelve traditional languages of the Brisbane and Roma areas through recording, archiving and promotional activities. An evaluation of the programme is planned for 2006–07.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$8.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - 82 activities funded
  - 16 language centres supported
  - Federation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages supported.

## National Community Crime Prevention Programme

The National Community Crime Prevention Programme (NCCPP) is a \$64 million mainstream discretionary grants initiative funding grass roots projects that enhance community safety and prevent crime. Some funding is provided to Indigenous communities through the Indigenous Community Safety Stream. Indigenous communities may also benefit from a variety of projects funded under other streams. For example, organisations seeking to form partnerships that benefit Indigenous communities can apply under the Community Partnership stream for up to \$500 000.

The NCCPP has already funded a number of successful projects in Indigenous communities, including the Kowanyama Justice Group's project Kowanyama Crime Prevention, A Community Approach. This project educated students at the Kowanyama State School about crime, including the links between lifestyle choices and involvement in criminal activity, and supported students in

making the transition from primary to high school. It included initiatives such as the Kiddy Cop Programme through which Indigenous Kowanyama School students were trained and worked alongside the Kowanyama Community Police each Friday. Students observed the criminal justice system in operation, from the initial investigation of an incident to the final court process, developing positive relationships with police along the way. The project has achieved good results, including improved school attendance.



Young participants in the Kiddy Cop Programme

## Indigenous Women's Programme

The Indigenous Women's Programme supports Indigenous women's leadership, representation, safety, wellbeing and economic status. It provides grants for activities that meet the identified needs and aspirations of local Indigenous women. During 2005–06, activities included organised sports, arts and community events and health, cooking and nutrition workshops.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$4.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 360 workshops and events
  - ▶ 5832 participants in activities
  - ▶ 3 research projects
  - ▶ 4 reports and publications.



## Indigenous Sport and Recreation Programme

The Indigenous Sport and Recreation Programme (ISRP) aims to increase the active participation of Indigenous Australians in sport and physical recreation activities. These activities are supported because they improve the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians. They also play a diversionary role, with the potential to contribute, either directly or indirectly, to broader social goals by reducing substance abuse, increasing school attendance and creating social cohesion.

In 2005–06, an internal review of the programme indicated strong stakeholder support, particularly for the Indigenous Sport Development Officers (ISDOs) who work with Indigenous communities and relevant government agencies to promote sport and physical recreation activity at the regional and local level. Concern was raised, however, about the need to be able to enter into multi-year agreements for the employment of ISDOs. To that end, Regulation 10 approval was successfully sought to enter into a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Sports Commission for the delivery of the Indigenous Sport Programme, which includes funding for ISDOs.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$11.5 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ more than 150 activities funded
  - ▶ employment of 28 Indigenous Sport Development Officers.

## Indigenous Broadcasting Programme

The Indigenous Broadcasting Programme supports culturally appropriate Indigenous community radio services, including 20 fully licensed Indigenous community broadcasters in capital city and regional centres, plus 4 services holding temporary community broadcasting licences in Nhulunbuy (NT), Kalgoorlie (WA), Geraldton (WA) and Palm Island (Qld). It also supports Imparja Television, Australia's only Indigenous-controlled commercial television service, through assisting with costs associated with the uplink of networked Indigenous radio programming and the fledgling Indigenous Community Television Service.

In 2005–06, the programme supported the establishment of a new Indigenous media organisation in Cairns to support remote Indigenous broadcasting organisations in Queensland. This now makes seven remote Indigenous media organisations that provide training, technical support and networking arrangements for broadcasting services in 80 remote communities throughout Australia.

Over the next four years, the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts will manage the \$1.1 billion Connect Australia programme, which includes the \$89.9 million Backing Indigenous Ability package. This package incorporates \$36.6 million for telecommunications to address areas such as community phones, internet access and videoconferencing in remote Indigenous communities and \$53.3 million for broadcasting to improve Indigenous radio and television.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$13.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 99 activities by Indigenous-controlled media organisations supported.

# Effective environmental health systems

**T**he conditions in which people live and work have a major influence on their general health and wellbeing. Environmental health is about providing safe and healthy living conditions.

*This includes the houses in which people live, the water they drink, the food they eat, and the safe removal of waste. As well as being a major contributor to poor health outcomes, inadequate environmental health practices can have other negative consequences such as family relationship breakdown and educational difficulties.*

*The Australian Government has a number of initiatives to improve environmental health, including programmes to reduce household overcrowding. Given the impact of all levels of government on this issue, close collaboration with state, territory and local governments is crucial to address jurisdictional overlap and ensure that services are delivered in a streamlined and appropriate way. This is currently taking place through bilateral negotiations between the Australian Government and the states and territories.*

## Outcomes:

- *The percentage of households in very remote areas with an average of three or more people in a bedroom has decreased, from 33.8 per cent in 1996 to 23.2 per cent in 2001.*
- *In the 2001 Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (CHINS), 7 per cent of discrete Indigenous communities reported having no organised sewerage system (compared with 15 per cent in 1992), 7 per cent reported having no organised electricity supply (compared with 28 per cent in 1992) and 2 per cent reported having no organised water supply (compared with 6 per cent in 1992).*

## Key programmes

### Community Housing and Infrastructure Programme and Aboriginal Rental Housing Programme

The Australian Government is working to improve the environmental health outcomes of Indigenous people by improving their access to housing and essential services such as power, water, sewerage and waste disposal.

These activities are delivered through:

- the Community Housing and Infrastructure Programme (CHIP), which improves the living environment of Indigenous Australians by providing housing and associated infrastructure
- the Aboriginal Rental Housing Programme (ARHP), which funds state and territory governments to provide safe, healthy and sustainable housing specifically for Indigenous people.

These activities are undertaken in partnership with state and territory governments and Indigenous community housing organisations.

Through the Fixing Houses for Better Health component of CHIP, more than 800 Indigenous people have been employed to survey and fix critical 'health hardware' items such as hot water systems, taps, toilets, drains, showers and electrical fittings. An evaluation conducted in 2005–06 showed that, since the programme began in 2001, more than 26 000 people have benefited from housing improvements. These improvements are helping to provide a safer housing environment and better health outcomes for Indigenous people.

- Expenditure 2005–06 (CHIP): \$289.6 million
- Expenditure 2005–06 (ARHP): \$93.3 million

■ Outputs 2005–06:

- ▶ more than 590 new houses acquired
- ▶ 780 major upgrades undertaken in partnership with state and territory governments
- ▶ activities benefited approximately 4800 Indigenous people.

### Aboriginal Army Community Assistance Programme

The Aboriginal Army Community Assistance Programme (AACAP) is a joint initiative between FaCSIA and the Army. Originally known as the ATSCIC Army Community Assistance Programme, AACAP uses Defence resources to improve environmental health in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Since the programme was originally announced on 14 November 1996, 31 communities have benefited across four states and territories.

The objective of AACAP is to build facilities that are durable, locally sustainable and appropriate to the cultural and physical environment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This year, AACAP is focusing on the Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Centre located in Borroloola, Northern Territory.

Army house construction has been under way since May and is due for completion in August. The Army will then manage the construction of six more homes and related infrastructure.

An important element of AACAP 06 has been the very successful accredited general construction course. This trained 20 participants under a learning model that used teams of four including one Army, one Norforce and two Indigenous locals. Thirty-one CDEP recipients applied and were accepted for the course, which resulted in 28 people obtaining a Certificate I and working towards a Certificate II in General Construction. Eleven course participants are moving into paid workforce positions in the Gulf region, and the Katherine ICC is now working on a new Shared Responsibility Agreement to take advantage of the recently completed training.



## Bushlight

The Bushlight Programme, jointly funded by FaCSIA and the Australian Greenhouse Office within the Department of the Environment and Heritage, aims to improve the lifestyle choices of small remote Indigenous communities in Australia through sustainable renewable energy services. Bushlight was originally a four-year project, but has been extended for a further two years until 30 June 2008.

By end June 2006, Bushlight had installed 93 household and community renewable energy systems in 77 communities across the Northern Territory, Western Australia and Queensland. This has supplied residents in participating communities with more reliable power, enabling them to keep food and medicines fresh, wash clothes more easily and re-establish schools. This has had a major impact on the health and welfare of community members. Bushlight also teaches local Indigenous people how the solar power system works and how to do basic maintenance like topping up batteries and cleaning dust from solar panels.

An independent evaluation estimated that annual energy expenditure has been cut on average by \$5500 per household as a direct result of the system installation. This saves the community funds, provides a more reliable service and cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions.

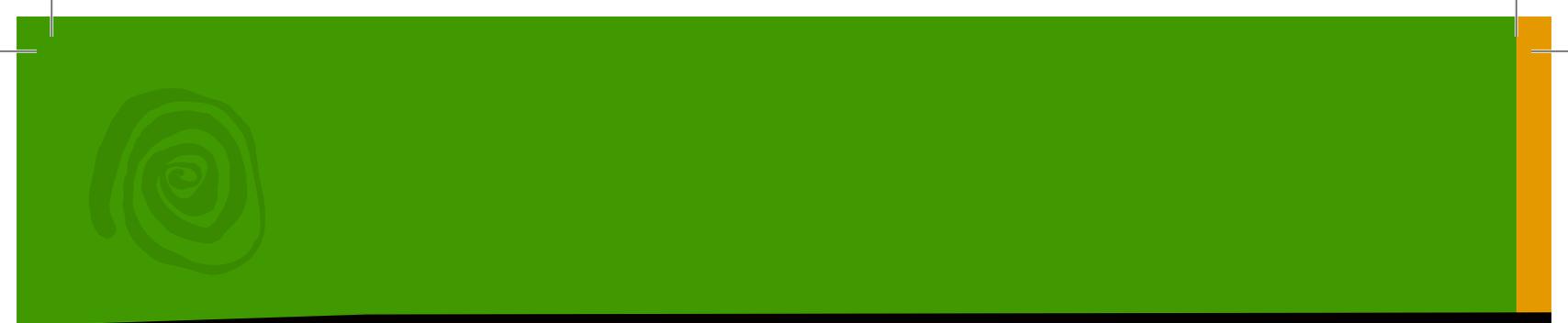


Participants in the Bushlight Programme



Maintaining Bushlight solar panels





## Outback Stores

The Australian Government recognises that community stores are crucial to the economic, social and health interests of remote Indigenous communities. Indigenous Business Australia (IBA), with the cooperation of the retail grocery industry, has established a new propriety limited company called Outback Stores. Under this new budget initiative IBA will receive funding of \$48.1 million over three years including \$40 million in capital to provide loans to community stores for improving their facilities.

Outback Stores will offer a commercial management model providing better governance, financial and stock management, supply chains, hygiene and staff employment conditions for participating community stores. This will ensure consistency in the delivery, supply, quality and range of fresh food items and a broader range of goods and services for remote

communities. In addition, a qualified nutritionist will monitor the company's activities to ensure nutritious foods are stocked at competitive prices and that communities receive the appropriate information needed to make educated choices when shopping.

After the development of a detailed business plan by a working group whose members included representatives from IBA, Australia's largest grocery retailers and independent grocery suppliers, the inaugural meeting of the Outback Stores board of directors was held in August 2006. The board consists of representatives from IBA, Coles Group, Woolworths and the Arnhem Land Progress Association. IBA has identified around 140 community stores eligible to participate in this initiative. In the near future, Outback Stores will begin talks with communities in the Alice Springs region with the view to having up to seven stores under Outback Stores management by November 2006.



# Economic participation and development

**E**conomic participation and development not only provides economic benefits to Indigenous Australians, it has a wider impact on their social wellbeing. Economic participation improves self-esteem and can also lead to benefits for families through increased access to health and education services.

The extent to which Indigenous people can participate in the economic life of the nation is heavily dependent on their level of skills and knowledge. Poor educational outcomes can affect the ability of Indigenous people to gain employment later in life. It is therefore important that Indigenous people receive an adequate education and have the opportunity to undertake further study or training.

Economic participation and development is also influenced by the extent to which Indigenous people have control over land and sea resources. Indigenous-owned and controlled land can provide economic benefits to communities and individuals through negotiation of agreements with governments and private enterprise. These agreements can provide monetary payments, infrastructure or employment and training programmes. Land can also provide a home and may lead to employment opportunities through tourism, agriculture and mining.

Good governance is vital to enable Indigenous people to take part in economic development. It influences the way in which Indigenous organisations make decisions that can lead to sustainable economic results. Indigenous organisations need to adopt governance structures that are both culturally legitimate and effective.

## Outcomes:

- The Indigenous unemployment rate fell from 23 per cent to 20 per cent between 1996 and 2001.
- Since the introduction of the Indigenous Employment Policy in 1999, over 54 000 Indigenous Australians have been placed in employment and/or training.
- In 2001, 10 500 more Indigenous households owned or were buying their own home than in 1996.

## Key programmes

### Indigenous Employment Policy

The Indigenous Employment Policy consists of a number of specialised Indigenous employment initiatives to stimulate Indigenous economic activity, and a range of measures to improve employment services and outcomes for Indigenous Australians. The policy is delivered through a number of elements, namely:

- Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP), providing structured training and ongoing employment for Indigenous job seekers
- Indigenous Employment Centres (IECs), helping Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) participants move into unsubsidised employment
- Indigenous Wage Assistance, providing wage subsidies for 26 weeks to employers offering ongoing full-time work to eligible Indigenous Australians
- National Indigenous Cadetship Project, providing students with professional development placements which combine full-time study with work experience



- Community Development Employment Project Placement Incentive (CDEPPI), giving incentive payments to CDEP organisations that place participants in non-CDEP employment
- Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV), a non-profit company linking volunteers skilled in areas such as business, management and trades with Indigenous communities
- The Aboriginal Employment Strategy (AES), assisting Indigenous job seekers prepare for, gain and retain jobs
- The Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF), funding Indigenous organisations to teach Indigenous people about business skills and how to expand their businesses
- The Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS), providing access to commercial finance and culturally appropriate professional and mentoring support services for Indigenous businesses
- The Emerging Indigenous Entrepreneurs Initiative (EIEI), supporting projects which encourage Indigenous entrepreneurs to pursue self-employment and small business opportunities
- Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project (CLIEP), forming partnerships between individual companies and the Australian Government to generate sustainable employment for Indigenous Australians
- Indigenous Youth Employment Consultants (IYECs), working with Indigenous people from 15 to 19 years to provide linkages to work or further education and training.

An evaluation conducted during 2003–04 found that the policy appeared to be meeting its primary objective of improving the employment prospects of Indigenous Australians, particularly in the private sector. Outcomes for Indigenous job seekers increased during the second

Job Network contract and the use of Indigenous Employment Centres has helped CDEP participants move into open employment.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$108.3 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ record number of 10 100 commencements for job seekers
  - ▶ around 160 Indigenous businesses assisted.



Troy Shaw—trainee ranger in the Pilbarra with WA Department of Conservation and Land Management—part of the STEP Programme

## U in Cafes

With the Welfare to Work reforms beginning on 1 July 2006, Job Network members and other employment service providers are actively looking for employment opportunities for parents entering or returning to the workforce. Restaurant and Catering NSW and ACT (R&C NSW) has a new mainstream employment and training programme, U in Cafes, for job seekers wanting to work in cafes, restaurants and sandwich shops across metropolitan and regional NSW.

More than 40 job seekers have already taken part in this programme, including 13 Indigenous Australians. Many are now working, or soon will be, in the hospitality industry as a result. The programme was officially launched at the Youloe-ta Indigenous Development Association in Newcastle by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon. Kevin Andrews MP. The launch took place at the beginning of the second course, which was specifically for Indigenous job-seekers. R&C NSW have now run three courses, with more planned for Sydney and regional areas including Wagga Wagga, Albury and the Central Coast, giving up to 150 job seekers the opportunity to start a new career in the cafe and restaurant industry.



'U in Cafes' Launch

## Community Development Employment Projects

CDEP helps unemployed Indigenous Australians increase their chances of finding work and achieve economic independence. CDEP participants work on projects that meet community needs and can develop into new businesses.

In 2005–06, reforms to CDEP were introduced after a national consultation with individuals, organisations and communities. These focused on increasing the programme's flexibility through combining employment, community activities and business development; building stronger relationships between the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, CDEP organisations and other service providers; and placing a stronger emphasis on performance and results.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$569.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 34 791 CDEP places, in over 220 CDEP organisations
  - ▶ 3704 participants placed into paid employment
  - ▶ more than 20 viable businesses established.



### East Kimberley Regional Reference Group

The East Kimberley Council of Australian Governments (COAG) trial is guided by a Regional Reference Group that operates as a forum for regional planning and cooperation. It comprises community council chairpersons and their chief executive officers, as well as Australian Government, West Australian Government and Halls Creek Shire representatives.

The reference group is achieving strong community engagement, increasing regional focus and providing strategic direction to the trial. Its current agreed priorities are to improve the prospects of

young people in the region, and continue current work on improving housing. Secondary priorities are to work with the West Australian Government on law and order issues and a nutrition project for community stores.

There are other forums that effectively capture the voice of communities to inform the Regional Reference Group. For example, the Community Leaders Group made up of community leaders and locally based government staff meets before the Regional Reference Group to develop their agenda based on recent progress. On a more regular basis, the council chairs and chief executive officers meet with officers who are either organising or delivering services in the region.



### Home Ownership Programme

The Home Ownership Programme (IBA Homes) helps Indigenous Australians achieve economic independence through acquiring their own home, which becomes a significant asset. IBA Homes allows Indigenous Australians to overcome the restrictive entry barriers to the mainstream financial market, which would otherwise limit their opportunities to own a home. Since its establishment, the programme has enabled 12 413 Indigenous families achieve home ownership. The loan portfolio currently comprises 3359 active loans with

a total value of \$415.2 million. The programme aims to increase home ownership to 40 per cent of the Indigenous population by 2010.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$121.8 million in loans and associated costs
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - 580 new loans, totalling \$121.8 million to 1473 Indigenous Australians representing a \$27.7 million (29 per cent) increase from 2004–05
  - total asset value grew to \$457.9 million.

## Equity and Investments Programme

The Equity and Investments Programme (IBA Investments) allows Indigenous groups, families and individuals to participate in commercial enterprises through joint ventures with the private sector and/or IBA in a range of business sectors. IBA invests in commercially viable businesses that have the potential to generate revenue, acquire capital, and provide training and employment opportunities and other social benefits. For example, one investment sponsored three Indigenous Employment Programmes, with four trainees gaining Certificate II in Tour Guiding and another 11 gaining either a Certificate I or II in Hospitality. IBA Investments also provide ongoing business support and mentoring to Indigenous joint-venture partners, as well as economic development advice to Indigenous groups, families and individuals.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$19.1 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 894 jobs through IBA investments, including 195 to Indigenous Australians.

## IBA Enterprises

The Business Development Programme (IBA Enterprises) improves Indigenous economic participation by offering business loans and other business support to Indigenous Australians. Business loans are provided to acquire, establish and develop commercially viable businesses and enable operation as mainstream businesses. The loans support is customised for each business case and is provided to clients who may not be supported by mainstream financial institutions. IBA Enterprises also provides assistance to evaluate business opportunities and develop an enterprise idea, and training in product development, marketing strategies and networking skills.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$26.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 54 workshops conducted
  - ▶ 654 Indigenous Australians interested in starting a business or improving their business skills provided with information and training
  - ▶ more than 450 clients received business support assistance
  - ▶ 47 economic development initiatives approved
  - ▶ 74 new loans worth approximately \$14.2 million approved.



## Improving Governance in Indigenous Communities

Good corporate governance underpins the success of the 2500 Indigenous corporations operating under the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976*. The Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations (ORAC) encourages good governance by conducting 'healthy organisation checks' and offering information sessions and three-day workshops to improve a corporation's understanding of corporate governance. In 2005–06, 61 checks were done, which was a 13 per cent increase from the previous year, and 70.5 days of workshops were conducted. These are critical to the success of the Registrar's regulatory and compliance work with Indigenous corporations.

ORAC conducted a review of its training in September 2005, looking at external evaluations and internal data, as well as an independent impact assessment of the Certificate IV in Business (Governance). A summary of the review is on ORAC's website at [www.orac.gov.au](http://www.orac.gov.au). Its key findings were:

- The training has met its original objectives and has performed very well against relevant indicators.
- The scale of social capital built in communities as a result of the training is far greater than anticipated and will help communities engage with government.
- The training addresses an important need, and the consequence of not addressing it would be high levels of corporate failure and poor corporate practices, which will ultimately undermine efforts to improve Indigenous life outcomes.
- Training has contributed to improved Indigenous governance and management by targeting Indigenous board members and key staff involved with critical sectors (for example, family violence, women's organisations), highest-risk essential service organisations and in high-need regions.

The Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations administers the ACA Act, with assistance from ORAC. In 2005–06, compliance among corporations improved by 6 per cent, to 46 per cent being either fully or partially compliant with the law. The new *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*, which should be implemented in July 2007, will help further increase compliance by providing a reporting regime that can be tailored to different-sized corporations.



## APS Employment and Capability Strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employees

The APS Employment and Capability Strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employees was announced by the Prime Minister in August 2005 in response to declining recruitment and retention rates of Indigenous employees within the APS. The Strategy recognises that Indigenous applicants are competing for employment in an APS that increasingly demands graduate qualifications and has higher-level work. Therefore a number of alternative measures have been put in place to inform Indigenous job seekers about employment opportunities in the public service and help them develop the APS specific skills needed to compete effectively in the APS market. These include recruitment initiatives, information booklets, networking opportunities, scholarships and career development initiatives.

In 2005–06, the APSC surveyed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees in the APS. Their views are outlined in the Census Report, and where possible, the results compared with those for the APS as a whole. It reveals several important positive features of Indigenous employment that agencies can build on to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to join the APS and to develop productive long-term careers.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$2.8 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 25 Indigenous graduate recruits placed in 19 agencies
  - ▶ 32 Indigenous cadets placed in 12 agencies
  - ▶ 20 Indigenous Australian Public Service Employees Network (IAPSEN) meetings held
  - ▶ 27 'Career Trek' workshops held in 14 locations.

## National Arts and Crafts Industry Support

The National Arts and Crafts Industry Support (NACIS) programme aims to strengthen Indigenous art centres and build a more sustainable Indigenous visual arts industry. It currently funds 52 activities including the operation of Indigenous art centres around Australia and key advocacy organisations such as Desert and the Association of Northern, Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists.

Strong art centres play an important role in the maintenance of culture and the promotion of economic independence in remote communities. The success of the NACIS programme is reflected in the continued growth of the Indigenous visual arts industry, the vigour and innovation being demonstrated by the sector and its artists, and the sustained demand for development and start-up funding. An evaluation of the programme is planned for 2006–07.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$4.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 36 Indigenous art centres and 4 Indigenous arts peak bodies supported
  - ▶ 11 artist support and promotion activities and 1 national education project funded.



## Native Title and Land Rights Programmes

Native title and land rights recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' traditional rights to land. Such recognition can provide the basis for economic development that may in turn overcome disadvantage and break the cycle of welfare dependence. For example, the reforms in the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 2006*, which were passed by Parliament on 17 August 2006, are designed to facilitate home ownership and business development, streamline processes for development of Aboriginal land, and improve efficiency and accountability.

### Native Title Programme:

The Native Title Programme funds Native Title Representative Bodies and Native Title Service Delivery Agencies to provide professional services to Indigenous people pursuing the recognition and protection of native title under the *Native Title Act 1993*. At 30 June 2006, there were 250 Indigenous Land Use Agreements registered with the National Native Title Tribunal.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$52.8 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 20 native title determinations compared to 13 in 2004–05
  - ▶ 68 Indigenous Land Use Agreements registered with the National Native Title Tribunal.

### Aboriginal Rights to Land and Sea Programme:

The Aboriginal Rights to Land and Sea Programme funds programmes that provide opportunities for Indigenous people to gain economic and social benefits from land use and ownership under Commonwealth land rights legislation.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$1.9 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ a number of land claims progressed under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*
  - ▶ resolution of the Borroloola No. 2 land claim on 28 June 2006 with the return of the land to the traditional owners.

# Programmes across all strategic areas

**T**here are some basic principles that underpin progress across all seven strategic areas. First and foremost are safeguards to ensure Indigenous people have equitable access to all that Australia has to offer. It is also important to recognise the special place Indigenous people hold as the first Australians, and that though it manifests itself in diverse ways, all Indigenous people have a cultural life inseparable from their identity and aspirations. Fostering Indigenous leadership is similarly vital in overcoming Indigenous disadvantage and building individual and community capacity. Developing and supporting the leadership of Indigenous men and women enables community-based initiatives that are culturally and regionally appropriate.

In addition, no funding or performance framework can take into account all possible needs. To supplement mainstream and Indigenous-specific programmes, the Australian Government has a flexible funding pool to fund a variety of local projects across all seven strategic areas through SRAs. Flexible funding allows the development of tailored services according to regional conditions and individual community needs. The flexible funding pool was expanded in the 2006–07 Budget, with key portfolios required to contribute a combined total of at least \$75 million from existing resources over four years to fund SRA projects.



Indigenous Women's Leadership Programme graduation

## Key programmes

### Indigenous Women's Development Programme

The Indigenous Women's Development Programme was established to develop the leadership capability and skills of Indigenous individuals and build community capacity. The programme focuses on three broad areas:

- Indigenous Women's Leadership—forums and training for Indigenous women
- Networking Indigenous Women—fosters a support network among Indigenous women and offers an interactive website
- Men and Family Relationships—a forum for Indigenous men to discuss issues relating to their family responsibilities and role in supporting women in their communities.

Each year the programme supports women who are already making a contribution to their communities and have leadership potential. They undertake training to develop their leadership, communication, networking, organisational and goal-setting skills. The programme also provides funding and practical support so they can practise and develop their leadership skills by planning and delivering a community activity. The community activities focus on local issues and needs and each leader is coached by an experienced mentor.

In March 2005, around 80 Indigenous men already active in community work attended a National Indigenous Men and Families Conference in Canberra. Topics included the positive role of men in building family relationships, preventing violence, supporting women's leadership and securing a better future for their communities.



- Expenditure 2005–06: \$2.4 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 74 women sponsored in leadership development
  - ▶ 35 women’s leadership training events in communities
  - ▶ 4 national leadership forums (for men and women).

### Shared Responsibility Agreement Implementation Assistance Programme

Shared Responsibility Agreements are an important part of the Australian Government’s new approach to meeting the local needs of Indigenous communities. In 2005, the Government committed a further \$85.9 million, over four years, to develop and implement SRAs and Regional Partnership Agreements (RPAs) under the SRA Implementation Assistance Programme.

SRAs draw on a flexible funding pool to address a range of community priorities including recreational facilities, school attendance, training and employment. In return for investment from the Government, communities commit to implementing positive change. Performance against these commitments is closely monitored by the relevant ICC. Regular monitoring of SRA outcomes at the local level ensures interventions are appropriate and compatible with the broader SRA strategy to improve outcomes for Indigenous communities.

- Expenditure 2005–06: \$19.8 million
- Outputs 2005–06:
  - ▶ 95 SRAs signed across all states/territories.

### AIATSIS Digitisation project

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) holds the largest and most comprehensive collection of primary research materials on Indigenous cultures in the world. These collections promote knowledge and understanding of Indigenous cultures, past and present, but many are currently unavailable to the wider public due to their fragility. To preserve the collections and make them more available for general use, the Australian Government has invested \$13 million (over 2005–2008) to digitise archived AIATSIS materials that are at most immediate risk of loss through deterioration (approximately 40 per cent of the collection).

The AIATSIS digitisation project will use world-class digital infrastructure to ensure that current and future generations of Australians continue to have access to important historical and cultural material. They will improve the Institute’s ability to meet increasing demands for digital copy material and provide greater access to Indigenous materials to school children, researchers and to all Australians.

Examples of the sorts of materials being preserved include the only existing film (from the 1960s) of a complete Pitjantjatjara ceremony, which has never been seen by the community, and the JW Schomberg Collection—a valuable collection of more than 400 extremely fragile negatives and glass plates as a pictorial record of the Moa and Badu Island people in the 1920s and 30s.



## Reconciliation and Repatriation

Efforts towards reconciliation and the return of Indigenous remains demonstrate the recognition and respect of Indigenous culture. The Australian Government supports both practical initiatives and symbolic acts that encourage all Australians to embrace reconciliation. Reconciliation Australia was established as an independent body to promote reconciliation as 'a people's movement'. It liaises with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, state and territory governments, the business sector and others to jointly develop strategies to advance reconciliation. For example, Reconciliation Place was designed as an open public area for reflection on the reconciliation process and the nation's shared history. In collaboration with the National Capital Authority, five large sandstone plinths recognising past Indigenous leaders were placed in Reconciliation Place and unveiled on 5 July 2006.

The Reconciliation and Repatriation Programmes fund initiatives that promote reconciliation and the return of Indigenous Australian human remains from overseas museums and other collections. The Overseas Repatriation Unit works with traditional owner groups and overseas museums, to return Indigenous remains to their communities. A Repatriation Reference Committee, made up of Indigenous people with the necessary technical and traditional knowledge to guide international

consultations, facilitates the repatriation process. Formal agreements have also been finalised to repatriate remains from a number of British and European museums.

The repatriation of ancestral remains is culturally and spiritually important to Indigenous people. Most of the remains held in overseas collections were collected between the early 19th and 20th centuries through acts of grave-robbing or the disturbance of burial sites. Indigenous people believe the spirits of their ancestors cannot be at rest whilst their remains are away from their homelands.



*Murray Cod (Ponde)* -  
one of the new artworks at Reconciliation Place  
Designers: Andrew Smith, Benita Tunks, Rob Tindal  
Stonemasons: Tim Hodge, Malcolm Johnson  
Artist: Munnari (John Hammond)





# Appendix: Australian Government Indigenous Expenditure 2005–06

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio	2005–06 Expenditure (\$)
Administered	369 000
Departmental	290 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>659 000</b>

Attorney-General's Portfolio	
Commonwealth Community Legal Services Programme—	
Indigenous Women's Initiatives	924 984
Northern Territory Aboriginal Interpreter Service	1 079 000
Legal Aid for Indigenous Australians Programme	48 304 998
Law and Justice Advocacy Programme	2 466 000
Prevention, Diversion, Rehabilitation and Restorative Justice Programme	7 376 706
Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Programme	11 130 774
Native Title	4 850 000
Native Title Financial Assistance Payments <sup>1</sup>	0
Departmental	7 293 000
Australian Customs Service	
Engage and Train Torres Strait Islanders as Marine Crew to Serve in the Torres Strait <sup>2</sup>	146 606
National Indigenous Cadetship Programme	141 952
Australian Federal Police	
Indigenous Affairs <sup>3</sup>	405 225
Family Court of Australia	
Resolution of Family Disputes involving Indigenous People	384 349
Determination of Hearing of Family Disputes Involving Indigenous People	128 116

1. All states and territories have been invited to enter into bilateral agreements with the Australian Government to reimburse them for up to 75 per cent of some native title compensation costs and 50 per cent of the cost of tribunals performing native title functions. Funds for such assistance have been appropriated as a Specific Purpose Payment since 1997–98. However, as no financial assistance agreement have been signed, no payments have been made.
2. The reason that this is lower than budget is that we continued the two trainees on this year rather than recruiting new ones. A recruitment campaign for new trainees is being conducted now.
3. This figure includes expenditure contributing to the Indigenous Employment Strategy & Initiatives, Indigenous traineeship and funding for the Malunggang Indigenous Officers Network. It also includes ACT Policing expenditure on Indigenous Employment and Indigenous Crime Prevention.



<b>Federal Court of Australia</b>	
Native Title Jurisdiction Matters	9 661 028
<b>Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission</b>	
Community Affairs HREOC	1 079 643
<b>National Native Title Tribunal</b>	
Recognition and Protection of Native Title	30 631 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>126 003 381</b>

#### **Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Portfolio<sup>4</sup>**

Return of Indigenous Cultural Property <sup>5</sup>	300 497
Cultural Development Programme (CDP) Indigenous Art	
Training and Facilities	1 000 000
Cultural Development Programme (CDP) Indigenous Dance Training	1 319 000
Indigenous Culture <sup>6</sup>	19 280 512
Indigenous Sport and Recreation	11 535 991
Indigenous Broadcasting	13 327 000
Indigenous Community Broadcasting	655 254
Telecommunications Action Plan for Remote Indigenous Communities (TAPRIC)	1 448 480
<b>Australia Council</b>	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board	6 411 800
<b>Australian Film Commission</b>	
AFC—Indigenous Programme	1 787 576
<b>Australian Film Television and Radio School</b>	
AFTRS—Indigenous Programme Initiative	73 874
<b>Australian National Maritime Museum</b>	
ANMM—Indigenous Acquisitions Fund	79 969

4. The Departmental running cost funding transferred to DCITA for activities previously administered by ATSI/ATSIC for 2005-06 was \$10,671,000, however as these have been integrated into DCITA operations, the actual expenditure is not able to be provided.

5. The RICP Programme is an initiative of Cultural Ministers Council and funding for the programme is split approximately 50/50 between the Commonwealth and the States/Northern Territory. This figure represents the Commonwealth's contribution.

6. Indigenous Culture Support (ICS), Maintenance of Indigenous Languages and Records (MILR) and National Arts and Crafts Industry Support (NACIS) are all funded under the annual administered appropriation 'Indigenous Culture'.

<b>Australian Sports Commission</b>	
ASC—Indigenous Sports Programme	1 496 000
<b>National Gallery of Australia</b>	
Indigenous Programmes	474 071
<b>National Museum of Australia</b>	
NMA—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programme	884 819
<b>Special Broadcasting Service Corporation</b>	
SBS—Indigenous New Media	120 000
SBS—Indigenous Radio	241 176
SBS—Indigenous Television	3 600 000
<b>Australian Broadcasting Corporation</b>	
Indigenous online—Programmes and Education Development	2 676 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>66 712 019</b>

<b>Defence Portfolio</b>	
Australian Defence Force Cadets—Indigenous Participation Programme	241 000
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programme	129 606
Indigenous Liaison Officers and Review into Indigenous Heritage Issues	295 000
Army Community Assistance Project	3 275 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 940 606</b>

<b>Education, Science and Training Portfolio</b>	
<i>Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Act 2004<sup>7</sup></i>	351 546 000
ABSTUDY Secondary	108 244 000
ABSTUDY Tertiary	56 136 000
ABSTUDY Student Financial Supplement Loans	3 482 000
Tiwi Island Secondary College	10 000 000
<i>Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005<sup>8</sup></i>	4 937 191

7. This incorporates Supplementary Recurrent Assistance for preschools, schools & VTE, English as a Second Language-Indigenous Language Speaking Students, Indigenous Education Projects, Away from Base, Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme, Whole of School Intervention Strategy, Dare to Lead, and the Indigenous Youth Leadership and Indigenous Youth Mobility Programmes.

8. This replaces the *Vocational Education and Training Funding Act*.



Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council	319 000
Indigenous Staff Scholarships	173 000
Indigenous Support Programme (ISP)	27 108 000
Questacon—Indigenous Outreach Programmes	522 000
<b>Australian Research Council</b>	
Indigenous Researcher's Development Scheme	410 518
<b>AIATSIS</b>	
Research	4 987 000
Dissemination of Information	1 082 000
Collection Development and Management	7 590 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>576 536 709</b>

#### **Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio**

Community Development Employment Projects <sup>9</sup>	569 386 000
Indigenous Employment Policy	108 302 000
<b>Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)</b>	
Departmental	13 558 000
Home Ownership Programme	121 800 000
Equity and Investments	19 130 000
IBA Enterprises	26 381 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>858 557 000</b>

#### **Environment and Heritage Portfolio<sup>10</sup>**

Indigenous Protected Areas Programme	2 500 000
Indigenous Land Management Facilitators Programme	1 800 000
Indigenous Heritage Programme	4 720 000
Enhancing Indigenous Engagements in NRM	378 000
Indigenous Heritage Assessment	456 000

9. The CDEP estimates were revised down during the financial year in line with CDEP utilisation of places.

10. Programme figures include administered or capital works and departmental or operational funds.

<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i>	146 000
Renewable Remote Power Generation Programme (RRPGP) (Bushlight)	4 349 437
Low Emission Technology and Abatement (LETA) (Bushlight)	470 000
<b>Bureau of Meteorology</b>	
Indigenous Expenditure	33 298
<b>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority</b>	
Indigenous Expenditure	1 479 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 331 735</b>

#### **Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Portfolio<sup>11</sup>**

<i>Indigenous Child Care<sup>12</sup></i>	
Multifunctional Aboriginal Child Care Services (MACS)	11 049 913
Flexible / multipurpose centre-based services	6 743 868
Mobile Services/Toy Libraries	2 544 616
Outside School Hours Care / Vacation Care Services	5 723 230
Indigenous playgroups	1 335 231
Indigenous JET crèches	2 070 468
Family Relationships Services Programme (Indigenous component) <sup>13</sup>	390 559
Indigenous Children Programmes <sup>14</sup>	5 944 751
Aboriginal Rental Housing Programme	93 339 000
Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme <sup>15</sup>	19 800 000
Reconnect	3 155 923
YouthLinx (formerly Youth Activity Services / Family Liaison Workers)	618 901
National Indigenous Youth Leadership Group	197 874

11. Following machinery-of-government changes in January 2006, OIPC was integrated into the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. The following items reflect part-year expenditure: Native Title and Land Rights, Shared Responsibility Agreements Implementation, Indigenous Leadership, Public Information, Repatriation and Indigenous Affairs Litigation,

12. The 2005–06 figures were taken from FOFMS, 85% of expenditure data is actual expenditure, however due to system transition of information, 15% of data is estimated expenditure.

13. Although 2943 individuals (who identified themselves as Indigenous) used FRSP services, this figure represents the 2 Indigenous specific services.

14. This figure represents the expenditure of the former Indigenous Parenting and Family Wellbeing and AICCA programmes, which merged to form the new Indigenous Children's Program, and also includes \$344 751 for 3 Indigenous specific REACH services.

15. This represents the Commonwealth component of total programme expenditure of \$36 m.



Indigenous Research <sup>16</sup>	6 089 000
Stronger Families and Communities Strategy <sup>17</sup>	4 479 589
Family and Community Networks Initiative Programme	2 073 000
Indigenous Disability Advocacy Services	282 409
Indigenous Financial Management (Money Business) <sup>18</sup>	1 600 000
Community Business Partnership	30 232
Mentor Marketplace <sup>19</sup>	63 604
<i>Departmental: Healthy Indigenous Housing Continuation</i>	898 000
Community Housing and Infrastructure Programme	289 575 000
Family Violence Regional Activities Programme	3 705 802
Family Violence Partnership Programme (FVPP)	10 973 006
<i>Departmental: FVPP</i>	426 650
Supporting Families Coping with Illicit Drug Use <sup>20</sup>	594 961
Emergency Relief - Indigenous component	2 413 881
<i>Strengthening Indigenous Communities</i>	
Cape York Institute Welfare Reform Project	1 000 000
Scouts Australia Developing a National Indigenous Scouting Programme	2 000 000
Reconciliation Australia 1967 Referendum Anniversary Activities	500 000
Combating Petrol Sniffing	500 000
Family Income Management	550 000
Departmental <sup>21</sup>	17 700 000
Indigenous Affairs Litigation	181 000
Indigenous Leadership <sup>22</sup>	3 435 000
Repatriation	131 000
Native Title and Land Rights	16 974 000

16. Includes the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC) and CHINS.

17. This figure represents \$2.7m for Local Answers and \$1.8m for Invest to Grow.

18. 2005–06 Budget \$1.1m and 2004–05 carry over of \$500 000.

19. Red Cross, Palm Island.

20. Four Indigenous specific services.

21. Includes attributed corporate costs.

22. This expenditure incorporates the Indigenous Women's Development Programme and Indigenous Women's Programme.

Public Information	2 017 000
Artworks for Reconciliation Place and other reconciliation work	998 000
Shared Responsibility Agreements Implementation <sup>23</sup>	12 353 000
Aboriginals Benefit Account <sup>24</sup>	54 757 899
Ranger Payments	200 000
<b>Aboriginal Hostels Limited</b>	
Company Owned and Operated Hostels	36 940 000
Community Operated Hostels <sup>25</sup>	6 688 000
<b>Indigenous Land Corporation</b>	
Assistance in the acquisition and management of land <sup>26</sup>	43 368 000
<b>Torres Strait Regional Authority</b>	
Economic Development	3 362 000
Community Development, Employment and Training (including Community Development Employment Projects)	32 471 000
Native Title	1 869 000
Housing and Environmental Health Infrastructure	9 405 000
Social, Cultural and Development	7 232 000
Policy and Information	2 650 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>733 401 367</b>
<b>Finance and Administration Portfolio</b>	
Office of Evaluation and Audit	4 036 000
<b>Australian Electoral Commission</b>	
Indigenous-specific Expenditure	163 469

23. Includes *Strengthening Indigenous Communities* measure announced in 2006-07 Budget – *Cape York Digital Network*, \$0.75 million.

24. Represents total expenses from the Aboriginals Benefit Account.

25. This amount excludes \$1.8 million revenue from Health and Ageing Portfolio for aged care grants.

26. This represents expenditure as provided in the Indigenous Land Corporation income statement for 2005–06.



<b>Department of Human Services</b>	
Centrelink—Indigenous Services	56 677 000
Medicare Australia	2 399 744
<b>Total</b>	<b>63 276 213</b>

<b>Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio</b>	
Departmental	211 000
<b>Austrade</b>	
Departmental	84 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>295 000</b>

<b>Health and Ageing Portfolio</b>	
Access to Effective Family Tracing and Reunion Services	4 510 555
Aged Care Grants for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders—	
Residential Care (BREs 107 108 109)	17 397 411
Alternative Arrangements for the Delivery of Pharmaceutical Benefits	25 012 495
Australian Hearing Special Programme for Indigenous Australians	4 042 000
Croc Festivals	900 000
Health Programme Grants—General Practice Services—	
Rural and Remote Areas of the Northern Territory	300 000
Health services in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities <sup>27</sup>	322 552 092
Indigenous Coordinated Care Trials	18 212 251
Indigenous-specific Palliative Care	405 924
MBS item for Aboriginal Health Worker—	
Immunisation and Wound Management	2 267
MBS item for indigenous adult health check for A—	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 to 54 years	1 696 099
Indigenous Environmental Health Programme	454 000
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tobacco Project	340 000

27. Represents expenditure and commitments and includes the Petrol Sniffing Prevention Program, Healthy for Life, Primary Health Care Service Delivery and the Primary Health Care Access Programme. Some 2005-06 funds for Healthy for Life are being rephased to enable implementation during 2007-08 and beyond.

National Indigenous Chronic Disease Self Management— Service Delivery Project—Sharing Health Care Initiative	525 309
National Suicide Prevention Strategy	1 667 893
NHMRC Keeping Research on Track Guide	26 553
NHMRC Indigenous Research Grants	16 306 583
NHMRC Strengthening Cardiac Rehabilitation & Secondary Prevention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples	211 613
NHMRC Improving the identification of Indigenous people in health data collections	55 000
Petrol Sniffing Diversion Project	782 182
Quality Assurance in Aboriginal Medical Services (QAAMS) Programme (for 2 pathology tests HbA1c & ACR)	603 881
Broadband for Health	41 785
National Rural Primary Health Projects	164 752
Building Healthy Communities in remote Australia	410 596
Regional Health Services	3 971 957
Section 19(2) exemptions for Aboriginal Medical Services Under the <i>Health Insurance Act</i>	18 280 875
<i>Tough on Drugs</i> —Indigenous Communities Initiative	2 074 338
Capacity Building in Indigenous Communities	290 460
Treatment Grants for Indigenous-specific Services	2 581 759
Indigenous-specific Immunisation <sup>28</sup>	2 946 806
<b>Total</b>	<b>446 767 436</b>

28. Includes \$0.7 million expenditure for the National Immunisation Program.



### Immigration and Multicultural Affairs Portfolio<sup>29</sup>

#### Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination

Native Title and Land Rights	37 710 000
Shared Responsibility Agreement Implementation Assistance	7 424 000
Indigenous Women	2 648 000
Public Information	683 000
Repatriation	96 000
Indigenous Affairs Litigation	270 000
Indigenous Flexible Funding	50 000
Departmental	82 442 000

**Total** 131 323 000

### Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio

Indigenous Communities/Mining Industry Working in Partnership Programme <sup>30</sup>	367 000
Indigenous Cadetship <sup>31</sup>	55 709
Business Ready Programme for Indigenous Tourism (BRPIT) <sup>32</sup>	824 000
Tourism Australia	
Tourism Niche Market Development (Indigenous Programme Delivery)	325 000

**Total** 1 571 709

### Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Indigenous Functions—New Arrangements <sup>33</sup>	937 073
Australian Public Service Commission	
Indigenous Employment	2 847 000

**Total** 3 784 073

29. Expenditure for OIPC whilst part of the then Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

30. Actual accrual departmental expenditure.

31. Actual cash expenditure.

32. Actual accrual expenditure.

33. This represents the expenditure for the Indigenous Policy Branch of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and does not include the resourcing provided in the Department for work on Indigenous issues in specific policy areas.

### Transport and Regional Services Portfolio

Regional Aerodrome Inspection Programme (RAIP) <sup>34</sup>	273 300
Remote Air Service Subsidy Scheme (Indigenous Component) <sup>35</sup>	1 080 011
East Kimberley COAG Trial	1 343 262
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 696 573</b>

### Treasury Portfolio

Productivity Commission	
Developing and Reporting on key indicators of Indigenous disadvantage	600 000
Australian Taxation Office	
GST Field Compliance and Advisory Work	1 500 883
Indigenous Liaison Officer	103 808
Indigenous Tax Advisory group	31 959
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Resource Centre	335 970
Special Audiences Unit (Indigenous Unit)	196 860
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 769 480</b>

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34. Actual accrual departmental expenditure.

35. Actual accrual administered expenditure.



## Glossary of acronyms

<b>AACAP</b>	Aboriginal Army Community Assistance Programme
<b>AEP</b>	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy
<b>AES</b>	Aboriginal Employment Strategy
<b>AHL</b>	Aboriginal Hostels Limited
<b>AIATSIS</b>	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
<b>APS</b>	Australian Public Service
<b>APSC</b>	Australian Public Service Commission
<b>ARHP</b>	Aboriginal Rental Housing Programme
<b>CDEP</b>	Community Development Employment Projects
<b>CDEPPI</b>	Community Development Employment Project Placement Incentive
<b>CHINS</b>	Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey
<b>CHIP</b>	Community Housing and Infrastructure Programme
<b>CLIEP</b>	Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project
<b>COAG</b>	Council of Australian Governments
<b>EIEI</b>	Emerging Indigenous Entrepreneurs Initiative
<b>FaCSIA</b>	Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
<b>FVPLS</b>	Family Violence Prevention Legal Services
<b>HACC</b>	Home and Community Care Programme
<b>IBA</b>	Indigenous Business Australia
<b>ICAS</b>	Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme
<b>ICC</b>	Indigenous Coordination Centre
<b>ICP</b>	Indigenous Children Programme
<b>ICV</b>	Indigenous Community Volunteers
<b>IEC</b>	Indigenous Employment Centres
<b>IPA</b>	Indigenous Protected Areas Programme
<b>IPFW</b>	Indigenous Parenting and Family Wellbeing
<b>ISBF</b>	Indigenous Small Business Fund
<b>ISDO</b>	Indigenous Sport Development Officer
<b>ISRP</b>	Indigenous Sport and Recreation Programme
<b>ISP</b>	Indigenous Support Programme
<b>IYEC</b>	Indigenous Youth Employment Consultant



<b>IYLP</b>	.....	Indigenous Youth Leadership Programme
<b>IYMP</b>	.....	Indigenous Youth Mobility Programme
<b>LSIC</b>	.....	Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children
<b>MTF</b>	.....	Ministerial Taskforce on Indigenous Affairs
<b>NACIS</b>	.....	National Arts and Crafts Industry Support
<b>NCCPP</b>	.....	National Community Crime Prevention Programme
<b>NIC</b>	.....	National Indigenous Council
<b>OIPC</b>	.....	Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination
<b>ORAC</b>	.....	Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations
<b>PHCAP</b>	.....	Primary Health Care Access Programme
<b>PSPI</b>	.....	Parent School Partnerships Initiative
<b>RPA</b>	.....	Regional Partnership Agreements
<b>SAAP</b>	.....	Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme
<b>SRA</b>	.....	Shared Responsibility Agreements
<b>STEP</b>	.....	Structured Training and Employment Projects
<b>VTE</b>	.....	Vocational and technical education
<b>WoSI</b>	.....	Whole of School Intervention Strategy



